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Forest Service NEWS

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USDA • Forest Service**

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FOREST SERVICE TIMBER PROGRAM REVENUE INCREASES

PORTLAND, March 8--Regional Forester John Butruille today released the results of the Forest Service's timber management accounting system for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1989. A combined harvest of 5.2 billion board feet from timber sales on the 19 National Forests in Oregon and Washington brought a net return of \$430 million. The net return reflects the total \$966.4 million in revenue less costs and payments of \$210.9 million to local governments for their roads and schools.

"For the three years we have been compiling this report, the timber management programs on the National Forests in this Region have shown a good return," said Butruille. "With a harvest slightly smaller than last year's, our revenues increased almost \$110 million."

The accounting system-- known as Timber Sale Program Information Reporting System (TSPIRS)-- was developed in response to Congressional direction. This is the third year that reports have been completed on all 122 National Forests in the United States. Congress directed the development of TSPIRS to respond to concerns about the efficiency of Forest Service timber sales where costs were believed to exceed the benefits. A fact sheet for the Pacific Northwest Region is available from the Director of Timber Management, U.S. Forest Service, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208. Forest reports are available from each of the 19 National Forests.

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FACT SHEET
TIMBER HARVEST IN THE FOREST SERVICE'S PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
FISCAL YEAR 1989

The Pacific Northwest Region of the Forest Service, which covers the states of Oregon and Washington, harvested 5,239 million board feet of timber during the period from October 1, 1988, to September 30, 1989 (FY 1989). The FY 1989 harvest of 5.2 billion board feet showed a slight decrease from the FY 1988 harvest of 5.4 billion board feet.

FY 1989 was the third year for this timber accounting system that provides a view of both the financial and economic effects of an annual timber harvest. This new system is known as the "Timber Sale Program Information Reporting System". Based upon a summation of the data developed by the Region's 19 National Forests, the Pacific Northwest Region generated the following:

A net return of \$430.0 million from revenues of \$966.4 million,

Revenue-sharing payments of \$210.9 million to local governments for road and school programs (counted as an expense),

An estimated 55,709 jobs and \$1,984 million in consumer income in surrounding communities (based on Forest Planning assumptions), and

An estimated present net value of \$776.8 million (the sum of current and the estimated future benefits and costs that are expected from both the timber and nontimber resources on the acres harvested in FY 1989 adjusted to present value at an annual rate of 4 percent).

TSPIRS was developed in response to Congressional direction. The system was developed in association with the Congress's General Accounting Office and was tested on all 122 National Forests in the United States for the fiscal years 1987 and 1988 timber programs. Congress directed the development of TSPIRS to respond to concerns about the efficiency of timber sales. This year's report for fiscal year 1989 will provide Congress, the Forest Service, and the public, with a tool to assess the financial and economic status of a National Forest's timber sale program.

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